UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1095
18 November 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the Ethiopian-Eritrean conflict issued on 13 November 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst SUCHARIPA
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the Ethiopian-Eritrean conflict issued on 13 November 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union

Following the briefing by the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the European Union commends the efforts of the OAU High-Level Delegation to contribute to a peaceful settlement of the Ethiopian-Eritrean conflict at its meeting held under the Chairmanship of Blaise Compaore, President of Burkina Faso and current Chairman of OAU, Hassan Gouled Aptidon, President of the Republic of Djibouti, and Robert Gabriel Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, in Ouagadougou on 7 and 8 November 1998.

The European Union strongly supports the OAU High-Level Delegation's proposals for a framework agreement and urges both parties to commit themselves to full and unequivocal acceptance of these proposals.

In this context the European Union positively notes that one side has so far fully accepted the OAU proposals and hopes that the other side, which has not rejected them, will be able to agree with them in the very near future. The European Union remains ready to contribute to the implementation of these proposals.

The European Union further endorses the appeal of the OAU High-Level Delegation to the two parties to exercise maximum restraint.